

RESOLUTION NO. 20071018-036

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration, approximately one-half of U.S. energy consumption and approximately three-quarters of U.S. electricity consumption is used in our homes and non-industrial buildings; and

WHEREAS, approximately three-fifths of electricity produced in Austin, and a similar amount nationally, comes from fuel sources that produce pollutants that can be harmful to human health and which contribute to the increasing threat of climate change and global warming; and

WHEREAS, Austin Energy Green Building was the first program of its kind and remains the most successful utility-sponsored green building program in the nation; and

WHEREAS, Austin Energy Green Building has an extensive track record proving that energy efficiency and other green building practices improve the value of homes, increase the comfort of homes, decrease maintenance needs for homes, improve the health of homes, and lead to lower energy costs for homes; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin and Austin Energy have a unique position of responsibility, both nationally and internationally, for providing leadership and innovation on energy management and environmental responsibility; and

WHEREAS, the Austin City Council established and Austin Energy staff have successfully shepherded the efforts of the Zero Energy Capable Homes Task Force; and

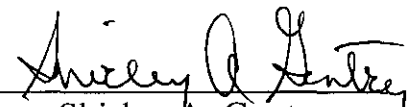
WHEREAS, the Zero Energy Capable Homes Task Force was comprised of a broad-reaching group of stakeholders, including the Home Builders Association of Greater Austin, representatives from related trade associations, affordable housing providers, energy efficiency advocates, members of the Electric Utility Commission and the Resource Management Commission, Texas Gas Service representatives and City staff; and

WHEREAS, the Zero Energy Capable Homes Task Force by consensus has produced a report to Council including a cost-benefit analysis and recommending goals, timelines, benchmarks and implementation strategies for making all new single-family home construction in Austin zero energy capable by 2015 through periodic amendments to the local energy code and through other measures; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

That the City Council does formally adopt the Zero Energy Capable Homes Task Force Final Report to Council, dated September 5, 2007, including the goals, implementation plans and recommendations contained therein, and directs the City Manager to timely bring forward those measures

outlined in the Report necessary to meet the goal of achieving zero energy capability in all new single-family home construction in Austin by 2015.

ADOPTED: October 18, 2007 **ATTEST:** 
Shirley A. Gentry
City Clerk